

M - 216,995

S - 268,515

CPYRIGHT

Feb 6 1967



CAMPUS CONTROVERSY—Involvement of the Central Intelligence Agency with the National Student Association is causing controversy at Siena College where Miss Janna Dickey (left) is calling

for Siena withdrawal from the group. Apparently unconvinced by her arguments are Miss Mary Alice McMahon, Siena SGA president and Jack Burch, NSA coordinator at Southwestern.

—Staff Photo by Fred Griffith

Siena Affiliation With SGA May Create Campus Tempest

By JOHN STOKES

The Student Government Association at Siena College affiliated itself with the National Student Association yesterday in a move which may generate a tempest on the campus.

Voters at Siena agreed by nearly a two-thirds majority Monday to reaffiliate with NSA after a four-year boycott of the group, but shortly after the vote count was finished it was disclosed that the Central Intelligence Agency has been underwriting some NSA expenses.

Subsequent disclosures about CIA's workings inside NSA — including a report confirmed yesterday by a Southwestern student that CIA has been arranging draft deferments for NSA officials — seem to have started a revolt against the Student Government Association at Siena.

The almost immediate effect of the Monday disclosure was a regrouping of opposition to joining NSA at Siena and an attempt to withdraw the college's application for reinstatement before it was official.

cially submitted to national headquarters.

That attempt failed, said SGA President Miss Mary Alice McMahon, chief proponent of the Siena-NSA Union.

"I mailed our papers this afternoon (yesterday) and for all practical purposes we are now affiliated with NSA.

"If there is any opposition they will have to notify the student government and start official action to withdraw again."

"I'm serving notice right now that we're going to do just that," said Miss Janna Dickey, assistant editor of the

campus newspaper.

"SGA pushed this thing through anyway and I think we should wait until this investigation of NSA is over before we rejoin—if we rejoin at all."

The incident at Siena coincides with controversies on numbers of American campuses following an admission by the national group that CIA has contributed a million dollars to its operation since 1952.

Editors of Ramparts Magazine in New York, which first revealed the NSA-CIA liaison Monday, also charged yesterday that students who were sent abroad with CIA funds were often, in effect, "agents for the CIA."

They further said that NSA's agreements with the national spy organization resulted in draft deferments for top NSA leaders.

Jack Burch, NSA coordinator at Southwestern, the only other Memphis institution affiliated with the NSA, said his campus has received the news of CIA involvement with calm and that no NSA withdrawal is planned.

at bit about the draft is added.

"I'm going to work for national headquarters next year and I've practically been guaranteed a deferment.

"I don't think there is any law providing for this — just a longtime agreement between NSA and the Government.

"How else could you have a national student group with student leadership? All the leaders would be drafted otherwise and we'd have people 35 years old operating the National Student organization."

Mr. Burch, who said Southwestern has been affiliated with NSA since the national group's founding in 1947, defended the group and said its leadership had been trying for some time to disentangle itself from CIA.

Government officials said only two NSA officials each year would be aware of the CIA bankrolling of global activities. The organization was not controlled, officials said, and records show it opposed American intervention in the Dominican Republic and called for cessation of bombing in Vietnam — contrary to United States policy.

Siena pulled out of NSA in 1963 after a policy dispute with the national group. Directors of activities at the University of Mississippi, Mississippi State, Arkansas State, Memphis State University and the University of Tennessee said their student bodies have never been affiliated with the group.

Meanwhile, at Siena, leaders of opposition to NSA affiliation seemed more concerned with charged leftist activities of the group than its CIA involvement.

"This outfit just demonstrates for the sake of demonstration and doesn't really speak for the students of America," said Miss Dickey.

"We're getting up posters and special editions of our newspaper to fight this affiliation."

Mr. Burch and Miss McMahon seemed to remain in the middle.

"The rightists shouldn't get after us because they've always liked the CIA," he said, "and the leftists have always said we were too right."